

## REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated July 30, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 30, 2003. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1 - 58 are pending in the application. Claims 1 - 32, 34, 42, and 47 have been cancelled by the Applicant, and new claims 59 - 63 have been added to the application. Claims 33 - 58 stand rejected, and claims 42 - 43 and 55 - 56 have been indicated to be allowable by the Examiner if incorporated into the independent claim from which these claims depend, including any intervening claims. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has restricted the claims to one of the following Groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

**Group I.** Claims 1 – 32, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 204, subclass 242; and

**Group II.** Claims 33 – 58, drawn to a method, classified in class 205, subclass 102.

In response to the Examiner's restriction, Applicant's hereby elect claims 33 - 58 (Group II) for prosecution. Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled claims 1 - 32 from consideration in this response.

The Examiner has objected to the abstract of the disclosure for not describing the claimed invention in view of the above noted restriction and election. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.72, Applicants have amended the abstract (as shown above) to remove the language referring to the apparatus. Reconsideration of the objection is requested.

The Examiner objected to claim 35 for informalities. Applicants have corrected these informalities via the above noted amendments, and as such, reconsideration of the objection is requested.

Claims 33 - 41, 44 - 54, and 57 - 58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Collins* (U.S. 2003/0038036). Further, claims 42 - 43 and 55 - 56 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, however, the

Examiner has indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response to the rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 33 and 46 to include the limitations recited in claims 42 and 55, along with the intervening claims. As such, reconsideration of claims 33 and 46, along with all claims depending therefrom, is respectfully requested.

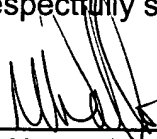
Additionally, Applicants submit that new claims 59 - 63 recite subject matter that is not taught or otherwise disclosed by the cited art. As such, allowance of claims 59 - 63 is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicant believes that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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| U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office<br>(PTO Form 1449 modified) |  | Docket No.<br>AMAT/5951/CMP/ECP/<br>RKK |  | Serial No.<br>09/981,508     |  |
| <b>SUPPLEMENTAL LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS<br/>CITED BY APPLICANT</b>          |  |   |  | Applicant<br>ZHENG           |  |
| (Use several sheets if necessary)  |  |   |  | Confirmation<br>No.:<br>6901 |  |
| Examiner<br>NICOLAS, WESLEY A.   |  | Filing Date<br>10/16/2001               |  | Group<br>1742                |  |

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| U.S. Patent Documents |     |                 |            |                        |       |          |                         |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------|------------|------------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------|
| *Examiner Initial     |     | Document Number | Issue Date | Applicant(s) Name      | Class | Subclass | Filing Date Appropriate |
|                       | A1  | 5,620,581       | 04/15/1997 | Ang                    | 205   | 96       | 11/29/1995              |
|                       | A2  | 5,972,192       | 10/26/1999 | Dubin, et al.          | 205   | 101      | 07/23/1997              |
|                       | A3  | 6,027,631       | 02/22/2000 | Broadbent              | 205   | 137      | 11/13/1997              |
|                       | A4  | 6,126,798       | 10/03/2000 | Reid, et al.           | 204   | 282      | 11/13/1997              |
|                       | A5  | 6,179,983 B1    | 01/30/2001 | Reid, et al.           | 205   | 96       | 11/13/1997              |
|                       | A6  | 6,248,222 B1    | 06/19/2001 | Wang                   | 204   | 297.09   | 09/07/1999              |
|                       | A7  | 6,261,433 B1    | 07/17/2001 | Landau                 | 205   | 96       | 04/21/1999              |
|                       | A8  | 6,368,966 B1    | 04/09/2002 | Krishnamoorthy, et al. | 438   | 687      | 08/31/1999              |
|                       | A9  | 6,391,166 B1    | 05/21/2002 | Wang                   | 204   | 224 R    | 01/15/1999              |
|                       | A10 | 6,432,821 B1    | 08/13/2002 | Dubin, et al.          | 438   | 678      | 12/18/2000              |
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|                       | A12 | 6,551,483 B1    | 04/22/2003 | Mayer, et al.          | 205   | 81       | 05/10/2001              |
|                       | A13 | 2002/0000380A1  | 01/03/2002 | Graham, et al.         | 205   | 102      | 10/28/1999              |

| Foreign Patent Documents |    |                 |      |         |       |          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| *Examiner Initial        |    | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation              |                          |
|                          |    |                 |      |         |       |          | YES                      | NO                       |
|                          | B1 |                 |      |         |       |          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | B2 |                 |      |         |       |          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | B3 |                 |      |         |       |          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | B4 |                 |      |         |       |          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| OTHER ART         |    |  |
|-------------------|----|--|
| *Examiner Initial |    | Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc. |
|                   | C1 |  |
|                   | C2 |  |
|                   | C3 |  |

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|----------|-----------------|
| Examiner | Date Considered |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.